



MG-2555 (143*242)

I hereby certify that this paper, along with any other paper or fee referred to in this paper as being transmitted herewith, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First-Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 13~~th~~ day of May, 2004.

By: [Signature]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MESSER GRIESHEIM :
:
SERIAL NO. 10/726,009 :
:
FILED: DECEMBER 2, 2003 :
:
FOR: PROTECTIVE GAS FOR THE :
NON-VACUUM ELECTRON- :
BEAM WELDING OF :
METALLIC MATERIALS :

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above identified application as follows: